

Rehabilitation of the Paradise Inn

The Paradise Inn is the largest lodging facility located within Mount Rainier National Park. The Inn was built using massive timbers and glacial boulders to blend the building with its natural surroundings and, therefore, the building is a contributing feature to the park's National Historic Landmark District designation.

The Paradise Inn was constructed in 1916 and is at increasing risk of structural failure due to the damage caused by heavy exterior snow loading. The Inn fails to meet current best professional structural standards and codes and, therefore, poses a potential risk to human health and safety in the event of a major earthquake.

A structural viability assessment of the Inn in 1996 estimated that a catastrophic failure of the entire structure was possible within the next ten years. In addition, the Inn is not accessible for individuals with mobility impairments, nor does it contain guest rooms that are compliant with the Americans with Disability Act. The grand hearths and their chimneys are also at risk of collapse in the Main Lobby and Dining Hall.

The rehabilitation will correct these deficiencies, resulting in a structure that is safe, stable, and serves visitors better.